

SENATE BILL 1773

By Jackson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4,
Chapter 3, Part 22, relative to welcome centers
and rest stops.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 3, Part 22, is amended by adding a new section thereto, as follows:

Section 4-3-2209. It is the intent of the state to promote and facilitate Tennessee's natural beauty and bountiful attractions. All welcome centers supervised by the department shall have photographs, posters, maps, music, books and other items that illustrate Tennessee's unique heritage and wealth of endeavors, from the historic to the peculiar, the traditional to the frivolous. Each welcome center shall emphasize events and sites that are within a fifty-mile radius within Tennessee. A short explanation of each event or site shall accompany each display or other promotion.

SECTION 2. The commissioner of tourist development is directed to assist the commissioner of safety in developing materials and training staff members regarding all aspects of Tennessee life that are endearing to its citizens and captivating to its visitors. Emphasis shall be placed on hidden treasures that a casual observer might miss, including natural sites such as waterfalls and caves, and man-made sites such as museums, seasonal events, and community celebrations. The commissioner of tourist development is directed to make Tennessee's welcome centers a place for travelers to enjoy and linger as tired limbs are stretched and eyes are rested.

SECTION 3. The commissioner of safety and the commissioner of tourist development shall report to the house and senate transportation committees by March 12, 2008, regarding the implementation of this act.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.